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ABSTRACT

This bibliography contains 30 titles by or about American Indians. Each entry includes publisher, price, and a brief annotation. Entries are organized into five sections: bibliographies, anthologies, novels by non-Indians about Indians, books by Indian authors, and books about Indians by non-Indians. (AA)

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A SELECTED ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY LITERATURE OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

compiled by

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
EDUCATION & WELFARE
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This brief bibliography can only suggest, inadequately, the riches of a literature, which according to Stith Thompson, is more voluminous than that of any other group of people whose literature is primarily oral. Many of the items beneath contain suggestions for further reading. The first three items are very useful, annotated bibliographies.

I. Bibliographies:

Hirschfelder, Arlene B., American Indian Authors: A Representative Bibliography, Association on American Indian Affairs, Inc. 432 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10016, \$1.00.

This list contains about 150 titles by 125 American Indian authors. Though it is very useful, it does not include references to many books by non-Indians about Indians. References to these will be found in several of the books beneath.

Newman, Killian, ed., A Preliminary Bibliography of Selected Children's Books About American Indians, Association on American Indian Affairs, Inc. 432 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10016, \$1.00.

The bibliography on children's literature was prepared by Indian readers, who went through two hundred books to prepare a list of 63 items, that the Indian readers found gave satisfactory treatment of Indian life.

Ullom, Judith C., comp., Folklore of the North American Indians, Library of Congress, Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, \$2.25.

This annotated bibliography includes items representing (and arranged according to) the eleven major Indian culture areas, including the Eskimo, with editions for children listed separately in each section.

II. Anthologies:

Astrov, Margot, American Indian Prose and Poetry: An Anthology, Capricorn Books, 1962. \$1.45 paperbound.

A collection of North, Central, and South American Indian songs, speeches, prayers, myths, and personal narratives. If you buy only one book, you might start with this one.

Curtis, Natalie, The Indians' Book: Songs and Legends of the American Indians, Dover Publications, Inc., 1969. \$4.00 paperbound.

This collection of traditional music and songs from 18 tribes including the Winnebago, has also drawings, legends, photographs and stories. The major emphasis is on music, with both words and musical notations. It is a very attractive book.

Day, A. Grove, The Sky Clears: Poetry of the American Indian, University of Nebraska, 1964. \$1.75 paperbound.

This book brings together more than two hundred poems and lyrics from about forty North American tribes.

Marriott, Alice, and Rathlin, Carol, American Indian Mythology, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1968. \$7.95

The myths, legends, and contemporary folklore of some twenty North American tribes are represented in this collection. The addition of contemporary folklore makes it a good complement to other folklore collections.

Thompson, Stith, Tales of the North American Indians, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1966. \$2.95 paperbound.

A comprehensive collection of tales from many tribes. The tales are organized by notions derived from folklore study, rather than by tribe or geographic area. The comprehensive nature of the work makes it quite valuable.

Washburn, Wilcomb, The Indian and the White Man, Anchor Books, New York: Doubleday and Company, Inc. \$1.95 paperbound.

Excerpts, with illustrations, from the literature of white relations with Indians, from Christopher Columbus to William Faulkner, with bibliographical suggestions.

III. Five Novels by Non-Indians about the Indians.

Berger, Thomas, Little Big Man, Dial Press, 1964. \$5.95, Crest, 1969, paperbound \$.95.

This recently filmed fiction of the 100 year old survivor of Custer's last battle is energetic, thoughtfully believable, and presents the Indian in a balanced and moving fashion.

Cooper, James F., The Deerslayer, Many editions.

Mark Twain's funny but unfair report of Cooper should not deter modern readers from this wise treatment of the American myth of the woodsman. The book is remarkably relevant, with its treatment of the American theme of equality, and its attention to the use of weapons and violence.

Borland, Hal G., When Legends Die, Lippincott Inc., 1963, \$4.50.

A remarkably successful effort to bring alive the dilemma of a young Ute, forceably taken from his Indian way of life to live in the white culture.

Richter, Conrad, Light In The Forest, New York: Alfred Knopf Inc., 1953.
\$4.50.

Though there is some criticism of this book as a bit ethnocentric (Whites are superior), it presents a report of both Indian and white as identically human, in the conflicts engendered by white movement from Pennsylvania into Ohio. A white boy, captured and raised by Indians, finally, reluctantly, returns to the white world.

Waters, Frank, The Man Who Killed The Deer, Swallow, 1965, \$5.00, paper-bound \$2.50.

A young Pueblo Indian is taught to be a carpenter in white schools, but found no place in the white world, and found himself out of place in the Pueblo world.

IV. Books by Indian Authors

Black Hawk, Black Hawk, An Autobiography, University of Illinois Press, 1964, \$1.75.

A book of great historical interest, especially so to people of Wisconsin and Illinois. Black Hawk was the Sauk chieftain whom Abraham Lincoln and others helped drive out of Wisconsin.

Deloria, Vine, Custer Died For Your Sins: An Indian Manifesto, Macmillan, 1969, \$5.95.

This is a free swinging report by a Sioux who has achieved high educational credentials in the white world, but who remains free to indicate what the modern Indian thinks of that world. Must reading for understanding of the Indian of today.

Dockstader, Frederick J., Indian Art in America: The Indian Arts and Crafts of the North American Indian, Greenwich, Conn.: New York Graphic Society, 1966, \$25.00.

This book along with several others by Dockstader, presents Indian arts and crafts in all their variety and attractiveness. It would seem most useful for libraries.

Linderman, Frank B., Plenty-Coups, Chief of the Crows, University of Nebraska Press, 1962, \$1.80.

This biography is based on extensive interviews with Plenty-Coups who was born in 1848 and died in 1932. It deals with the early years of his life, and presents in well rounded fashion the realities of Indian life in the last years before it was destroyed by the whites.

Mathews, John Joseph, Wah'Kon-Tah: The Osage And The White Man's Road, The University of Oklahoma Press, 1932, \$5.95:

Mathews, an Osage Indian, reports the life of an early BIA agent, Major Laban J. Miles. It is a very readable account of the Osage, as they moved from their free life to the life of the reservation, with its unexpected riches of oil.

Momaday, Natachee Scott, The Way To Rainy Mountain, University of New Mexico Press, 1969, \$4.95. Also in paper, Ballantine, \$1.25.

This reader prefers The Way To Rainy Mountain to Momaday's novel House Made Of Dawn, New York, Harper and Row, \$4.95, also paper New American Library, \$.95. Rainy Mountain is a skillful and complex report of the migration of the Kiowa from western Montana to their present home in Western Oklahoma. It includes folklore, personal experience, and tribal memories. House Made Of Dawn is a novel describing the difficulties that a veteran of World War II finds in the present world. Both books are well worth including in a library collection.

Mountain Wolf Woman, Mountain Wolf Woman, Sister of Crashing Thunder: The Autobiography of a Winnebago Woman, ed. by Nancy O. Lurie, University of Michigan Press, paper \$1.75.

As is true of the biography of Crashing Thunder, this book is of more importance for sociological than literary reasons. Wisconsinians will find it interesting to learn of the actualities of the life of a Winnebago Indian, in the earlier years of this century.

Neihardt, John G., Black Elk Speaks, University of Nebraska Press, 1961, \$1.50.

As is true of other similar books, the real author is the subject of the book, and not Neihardt, who interviewed Black Elk, and presents his life story here. The story runs through the early years of his life, the battle with Custer, and the white butchery of the Sioux at Wounded Knee. Black Elk was an Oglala Sioux, born in 1863. The book ends with an actual event much like the fictional ending of Little Big Man. This biography has literary merit.

Radin, Paul, Crashing Thunder, Winnebago, Dover, 1963, \$1.00.

Though not of high literary value, this book is of interest to Wisconsin readers, because of its report of the life of a Wisconsin Winnebago Indian.

V. Books About The Indian by Non Indian Authors

Alexander, Hartley Burr, The World's Rim, University of Nebraska Press, 1953, \$1.95.

An analysis of Indian myth, probably for somewhat advanced students.

The American Heritage Book of Indians, American Heritage Publishing Co., Simon and Schuster, 1961, \$16.50.

A very attractive general introduction, with many illustrations.

Collier, John, The Indians of the Americas, Norton, 1952, \$8.50, abridged edition, paper, Mentor, \$1.75.

The former Commissioner of Indian Affairs has written an excellent history of Indian life since the arrival of the Europeans in North and South America.

Marriott, Alice, The Ten Grandmothers, University of Oklahoma Press, 1945, \$.95.

This history of the Kiowa Indians from about 1845 to the recent past is based on tribal memories. Miss Marriott has done some fictionalizing; the result is a remarkably moving book. The word "grandmother" refers to a collection of sacred objects called a medicine bundle.

Underhill, Ruth M., The Navahos, University of Oklahoma Press, revised ed., 1967, \$5.95.

A well written history of a major American tribe, by an outstanding authority.

Quimby, George I., Indian Life in the Upper Great Lakes, University of Chicago Press, 1960, \$6.50.

Brief, well illustrated, introductory, it is useful for Wisconsin schools.

Sandoz, Mari, Cheyenne Autumn, Hastings House Publishers, 1953, \$1.25.

An attractive account of the effort of a group of Cheyennes to return from the heat of Oklahoma to their homes in the northern great plains. This was one of the last Indian wars, so called; the Indians come off well by every standard. Miss Sandoz has consulted many records, and tells this poignant tale very well.

* Additional copies may be purchased from Dr. Nicholas J. Karolides, Editor, Wisconsin English Journal, Wisconsin State University - River Falls, Wisconsin 54022.

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